

(4) extending deterrence to United States allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Australia, which is an unmistakable demonstration of the United States commitment to collective security;

Whereas the United States calls on the Islamic Republic of Iran to comply with its obligations under the NPT, which it ratified in 1970, abide by its 1974 comprehensive safeguards agreement with the IAEA, and fully and permanently implement the Additional Protocol to its IAEA safeguards agreement in refraining to obtain or produce nuclear weapons;

Whereas heightened geopolitical tensions in recent years have made cooperation on nonproliferation and arms control issues with the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China more challenging;

Whereas recent harmful actions by the Government of the Russian Federation have led to a further a deterioration in bilateral relations with the United States, including Russia's illegal occupation of Crimea, its 2014 invasion of Eastern Ukraine, and its 2022 invasion into all of Ukraine, its brazen interference in the 2016 and 2020 United States presidential elections, its violation of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles, signed at Washington December 8, 1987, and entered into force June 1, 1988 (commonly referred to as the "INF Treaty"), its use of chemical nerve agents in assassination attempts in the United Kingdom and against Aleksei A. Navalny, and its destabilizing actions in Syria;

Whereas concerning actions by the People's Republic of China have also strained bilateral relations with the United States, including a sustained build-up of nuclear forces, threatening military activities toward Taiwan, and the transfer by Chinese entities of proliferation and missile technology transfers to states such as the Islamic Republic of Iran, North Korea, Syria, and Pakistan;

Whereas, despite these challenges, the United States remains committed to a stable strategic relationship with the Governments of the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China and especially in the field of nonproliferation and arms control;

Whereas United States efforts to reduce dangers associated with nuclear arsenals through ambitious arms control agreements with both the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China would advance United States and global security, adding to the benefits of stability and transparency provided by existing agreements;

Whereas President Joseph R. Biden's decision to extend the New START Treaty between the United States and the Russian Federation for five years places verifiable legally-binding limits on Russian ICBMs, SLBMs, and heavy bombers until February 5, 2026;

Whereas the Bilateral Consultative Commission (BCC) continues to be the appropriate forum for the Parties to engage constructively on any New START Treaty implementation issues that arise;

Whereas the Ninth Review Conference of the States Parties to the NPT will take place in August of 2022 in New York, having been rescheduled due to restrictions brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas the Ninth Review Conference presents an opportunity to refocus States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on the danger that the spread of nuclear weapons poses, to discuss potential ways to deal with countries that continue to pose a nuclear security threat,

and to find common solutions so as to further reduce the number of nuclear weapons in the world and enable increased use of nuclear energy while improving safeguards to ensure that illicit nuclear programs are not occurring; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the United States should continue to encourage all States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) to comply fully with the terms and the spirit of the Treaty;

(2) the United States should—

(A) maintain support for the IAEA through its assessed and voluntary contributions and seek to pay its dues at the beginning of the IAEA's fiscal year and through advocating for all countries to enter into the Additional Protocols with the IAEA;

(B) pursue a verifiable and comprehensive arms control agreement with the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China to capture strategic and nonstrategic nuclear weapons capabilities, which would enhance United States and global security by building upon other treaties, agreements, and transparency measures that reduce nuclear risk;

(C) continue to encourage opportunities with other nuclear weapon-possessing states to reduce the reliance upon, role, and number of nuclear weapons in their national military strategies; and

(D) advance critical United States security partnerships like the one among Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States (commonly known as "AUKUS") consistent with IAEA safeguards, to provide Australia with naval nuclear propulsion technology to better deter against military aggression in the Indo-Pacific; and

(3) the President is encouraged to work with other States Parties to the NPT to strengthen compliance and enforcement mechanisms and develop collective responses in the United Nations Security Council and in any other relevant multilateral fora to any notification of withdrawal from the Treaty.

SENATE RESOLUTION 612—RECOGNIZING WOMEN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES FOR NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

Ms. ERNST (for herself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. MARKEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:

S. RES. 612

Whereas the United States proudly recognizes small businesses as the backbone of the economy and acknowledges the impactful contributions of women entrepreneurs throughout the United States who are pushing small businesses to succeed;

Whereas, because female professionals, leaders, and small business owners play a vital role in the economy of the United States, when the United States empowers women, it empowers the entire economy;

Whereas women entrepreneurs provide critical goods and services, create high-paying jobs, build stronger supply chains for the United States, and play an integral role in Federal contracting and procurement;

Whereas women small business owners are key job creators and employers that are building a legacy for the next generation of businesswomen;

Whereas, according to the 2019 Annual Business Survey conducted by the Census

Bureau, women-owned businesses employed more than 10,000,000 workers and accumulated \$1,800,000,000,000 in receipts;

Whereas women-owned businesses make up more than 20 percent of all employer firms in the United States;

Whereas the vast majority of all women-owned businesses are classified as small businesses;

Whereas National Small Business Week takes place from May 1 to May 7, 2022, and recognizes the critical contributions of the entrepreneurs and small business owners of the United States; and

Whereas women-owned small businesses should be celebrated for their accomplishments and contributions during National Small Business Week; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) acknowledges the important role women-owned small businesses have in the economy of the United States; and

(2) commits to supporting women-owned small businesses by recognizing those businesses during National Small Business Week.

SENATE RESOLUTION 613—PROMOTING MINORITY HEALTH AWARENESS AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH IN APRIL 2022, WHICH INCLUDE BRINGING ATTENTION TO THE HEALTH DISPARITIES FACED BY MINORITY POPULATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES SUCH AS AMERICAN INDIANS, ALASKA NATIVES, ASIAN AMERICANS, AFRICAN AMERICANS, HISPANICS, AND NATIVE HAWAIIANS OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDERS

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Mr. SCHATZ) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 613

Whereas the origin of National Minority Health Month is National Negro Health Week, established in 1915 by Dr. Booker T. Washington;

Whereas the theme for National Minority Health Month in 2022 is "Give Your Community a Boost!";

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services has set goals and strategies to enhance and protect the health and well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas a study by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, entitled "The Economic Burden of Health Inequalities in the United States", concluded that, between 2003 and 2006, the combined cost of health inequalities and premature death in the United States was \$1,240,000,000,000;

Whereas African American women were as likely to have been diagnosed with breast cancer as non-Hispanic White women, but African American women were 41 percent more likely to die from breast cancer than non-Hispanic White women between 2015 and 2019;

Whereas African American women were twice as likely to be diagnosed with and 2.2 times more likely to die of stomach cancer than non-Hispanic White women;